

# Horticulture Northwest

Journal of the Northwest Ornamental Horticultural Society



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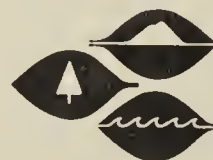
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# Horticulture Northwest

Volume 4 Number 3 Fall 1977

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# Editorial

This year the Northwest Ornamental Horticultural Society has grown in membership and expanded its purpose of education and service by introducing monthly program meetings, the quarterly journal Horticulture Northwest, and additional garden activities for the benefit of members and the public. The Board of Directors is continually exploring new ways of furthering the organizations goals and enriching the horticultural experiences of its members. With this in mind.....

"The members of the Northwest Ornamental Horticultural Society wish to extend an invitation to those attending the American Horticultural Society Annual Congress October 25-29, 1977, in Pasadena, California, to visit the coastal northwest either before or after the Congress. We will have an enthusiastic committee standing by to make the necessary arrangements....by appointment only.... including courtesy transportation to visit private gardens, rare and unusual plant nurseries, private bonsai collections, the Arboretum and other local horticultural features located in both Tacoma and Seattle."

On behalf of the NOHS the above invitation was extended by Mrs. Pendleton Miller in a two page article which appeared in the American Horticulturist, the official publication of the American Horticultural Society. The article included brief descriptions of some of the interesting gardens and parks of the Seattle and Tacoma areas. Not listed are many additional private gardens large and small, and specialist nurseries that will be of interest to our visitors.

Members of the hostess committee are looking forward with great anticipation to the pleasure of meeting AHS members from all over the country. If any NOHS members would like to join them in this very special activity, call Ann Herron, 454-1216.

Seed exchange 1978: We would like to initiate a seed exchange, a distribution of little known and grown American trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants, (though not to the exclusion of other rare and interesting plant material ) beginning in fall, 1978.

A study group is being considered to take on this important project of running the exchange. Their activities could include seed collecting field trips, research in propagation of plants from seed, contributing valuable information to the pages of the Journal and eventually to NOHS plant sales. Not only is this a tremendous learning experience, but an opportunity to make a real contribution to the world of horticulture. If you would like to join this group or have any suggestions, call the Editor, 363-3189.

Sallie Allen and Ginny McElwain

# Species Roses in the Northwest

Edith C. Shurr, Edmonds

## PART 1.

Roses were growing on the earth for more than 35 million years before there were people. Botanists believe that the first green plant on earth was the fern, and the first plant to bloom was the rose. Fossil remains of the ancient roses were much like the native roses right here in the Northwest - primitive, simple, five-petaled, from which the thousands of many colored, many-petaled modern roses have evolved.

Most of the originals, the species roses, were pink or pink and white, of a color so widely known as "wild rose pink" that everyone knows what color is meant. A few species were all white and a few in certain small areas were yellow.

The species rose could be used as a symbol of immortality, since it does not die of old age but only from disaster. It has the ability to renew its growth by producing new canes from underground to spread its growth, and can propagate its kind by producing the hips or seed pods, which can be carried by birds or winds, by currents in the oceans, spread far and wide by storms, to grow wherever a pocket of soil contains enough nourishment to sustain life. Rose seeds have been known to begin growing as long as seven years after they were produced, and the "wild rose" plants are remarkably adapted for survival in poor soil or adverse growing conditions.

The rose seemingly originated first around the Mediterranean and as far north as the mountains of northwestern China, spreading to most areas of the north temperate zone and even north of the Arctic Circle. The rugosas, of the notable "crinkled leather" foliage, apparently originated in Japan and Korea and spread around the northern lands of the world, to Siberia and to Alaska, Canada, and to the shores of the U. S. They are found along sea shores in areas cold enough to provide winter hibernation; they can stand salty spray and cold weather. It has been thought that the rose could not grow in humid jungles but in just the last two years a few species have been found in the tropical jungles of Central America.

In general, a species rose is defined as a primitive form, having a single row of petals, it breeds true, blooms only once a year, and produces seeds which generally duplicate the parent; however, with roses as with any other forms of life in evolution, there are NO ABSOLUTES. Anything which grows can produce a sport or mutation, some variation which can be propagated until the aberration becomes a fixed characteristic and produces a new variety. Species blooms most often have five petals, but not always. The unusual and great beauty of the red winged thorns, *Rose sericea* var. *pteracantha*, also called *omeiensis* because it was found on Mt. Omei in northwest China, is described in books as "the only rose with blooms of only four petals". Now and then it produces



flowers with five or even six petals, and perhaps observing Omei and to prove that a native Northwest species can do that remarkable trick too, a *R. pisocarpa* along my back fence produced several whole canes adorned with only four-petaled blooms. Two years ago, *R. palustris* surprised me by producing about half of its blooms with six petals, so it can be done.

Another axiom is that species roses flower only once. Usually that is correct but there are a very few exceptions. *Rosa californica* 'Nana' usually repeats its blooming and for that reason is right now being used by hybridizers who hope to reproduce its remontancy and vigor, to add to the other desired characteristics to make a new variety.

The Pacific Northwest has a wealth of species roses, some are true species of the area, while others have been introduced from other parts of the world and have become naturalized. Included here are most of those that you can expect to find growing wild, with unscientific and practical notes from my personal experience.

### NATIVE SPECIES

*Rosa acicularis* appears in various forms, mostly in two easily recognized variations, and others which can be distinguished only by botanical study. The flowers vary in size too and the growth habit may vary with the terrain. Flowers are fairly large, pink and five-petaled, on a small bush, usually four to five feet tall.

*Rosa gymnocarpa*, very prevalent in this area, is a small-sized dainty beauty, with fresh-faced pink blooms around golden anthers, of smaller size than many species blooms. Specimens brought to me from Cape Cod, a thicket near Bellingham, and a woodlot along the North Cascade Highway were all the same and delightful. The hips look like red beads, round, shiny and with slightly flattened ends. This is sometimes confused with a form of *R. acicularis* and with *R. woodsii*.

*Rosa macounii*\* sometimes found in the northern parts of the Northwest and in the western Canadian provinces, is a puzzler, suspected of being a variety of *R. acicularis*, or even possibly a 'Banshee' relative, and probably not a true species. It can be found with semi-double blooms, even up to 15 petals, sometimes nine, instead of the usual five. The bush is awkward and angular, heavily armed, low-growing, but the flowers are especially attractive, light pink, and it is extremely hardy.

*Rosa nutkana*, to be found from Alaska to Oregon, is a slim straight bush, of light green canes, pink blooms with golden centers, from two to two and one half inches across; most attractive and well scented. The hips are bright red, round and glossy.

*Rosa pisocarpa* is a Northwest treasure, growing only along the west side of Oregon, Washington and up into British Columbia. It is instantly recognizable because of its purplish color and its growth habit. It grows slowly, straight up with angular laterals, shaped like a child's drawing of a Christmas tree.

\*Editors note: This is *Rosa woodsii* according to Dr. C. Leo Hitchcock.

The one inch little pink blooms, on short pedicels, adorn the straight thin canes liberally in the late spring, and quickly set very small ovoid hips, yellow turning to bright red. There are purple shadings on all new growth, canes and foliage, giving it a purplish cast, darker than other species.

(To be continued)



*Cypripedium guttatum*

Illustration: Virginia Howie



# Rose-Spotted Ladyslipper

Maxcine Williams, Eugene, Oregon

Maxcine Williams, well-known lecturer and writer on Alaska natives, has spent many years exploring the little-known flora of this area.

Often a descriptive botanical name, other than commemorative, will seem far fetched. But not so with *Cypripedium guttatum*, which means "spotted". The flower is very spotted or blotched with shades ranging from pink to rose-purple or even darker in some areas.

The flower is solitary on a plant five to twelve inches tall. The upper sepal cups over the mouth of the pouch and is milky white with a purplish rim. The underside is rose-purple with light veins. The two lateral petals are white with rose-purple blotches and taper to a blunt apex. The pouch is the same color. An erect bract, usually colored, rises behind the cupped sepal. It has two broad ovate to elliptical leaves, prominently ribbed, about midway on the flower stalk. It propagates by underground rhizomes and possibly by seed in its native habitat.

On this continent it is found from the southern slopes of the Brooks Range to Kodiak and east to Northwest Territories. On Kodiak there is a color variation with some plants with a yellowish base and the purplish spots often have a brownish hue. The underside of the cupped sepal is dark purplish. On Unalaska this latter type seems to predominate and the blotches on the "slipper" often merge together giving the "toe" of the pouch a single dark color. It is also found on some Aleutian Islands, including Attu. Dr. Hulten, in his Flora of Alaska and Neighboring Territories, believes that the Kodiak and Aleutian plants are an introgression\* between *Cypripedium guttatum* and *C. Yatabeanum* of Asia. *C. guttatum* is also found in Asia.

I have found them under birch or aspen forests in mainland Alaska but on Kodiak they were in grassy meadows near the sea with some brush and fir trees nearby. On Unalaska we found them on steep, grassy hillsides more or less open. We never found them on Attu which has lush open meadows with willows and mountain ash the only shrubs.

Fred Case of Michigan has grown them successfully after much trial and error. They are growing in pots in Roseburg, Oregon, but they are not happy.

\*Introgression - Hybridization when the hybrids cross back with one or more of the parent species.

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*Potentilla 'Goldfinger'*



*Asarum hartwegii*



# Plant Notes

From the Fall NOHS Plant Sale

## POTENTILLA FRUTICOSA 'GOLDFINGER'

### Trees and Shrubs

A new potentilla hybrid from Holland is currently available. The striking characteristic is its large vivid yellow flowers. The cheerful blooms are a single saucer of five petals and flower dependably from June through October.

*Potentilla fruticosa* 'Goldfinger' is a vigorous shrub from one to three feet in height. Since it is semi-deciduous, it should not be planted in a garden focal spot. It is suggested that a winter trimming will encourage better flowering and help maintain its compact growth habit.

This potentilla is an excellent color follow up for the fading rhododendron blooms in June. The small grey toned leaves offer a color and texture contrast to our many broadleaves evergreens.

It should have a sunny spot, perhaps where annuals and/or perennials would be too troublesome soil-wise, weed-wise, slug-wise, or moisture-wise. Potentillas are good and tough and exceptionally hardy as well. It seems to be an ornamental shrub often overlooked by today's popular garden magazines.

Why not brighten your fall garden this year with this new Dutch hybrid, *Potentilla fruticosa* 'Goldfinger'? Look for it at the fall NOHS plant sale, Trees and Shrubs department.

Judy Addington

## ARECA PALM

### Houseplants

It is difficult to generalize about any family as widespread as the palms. Generally speaking they have single, unbranched trunks of considerable height; some grow in clusters, though some are dwarf or stemless. Again generally speaking, the leaves are divided into many leaflets, either like the ribs of a fan or like a feather, with many parallel leaflets growing outward from a long central stem.

The growth of palms is slow and they like to be root bound. They need fertilized, mostly sandy type soil at the time of planting, but require no further feedings. They respond well to indirect lighting and a humidity of 60%. There are many different kinds but the Areca palm (*Chrysalidocarpus lutescens*) seems the easiest to grow and also one of the less expensive to buy.

## ASARUM HARTWEGII

### Collector's Corner

*Asarum hartwegii*, an unusual wild ginger from California and southern Oregon, is sure to be an attention-getter in any shady garden. The deep green, heart-shaped leaves, two to three inches long, each bear a silvery blotch down center and the flowers they partially conceal are reddish, hairy, cups which make up for their lack of petals with long-tailed speals.

Though similar in appearance and culture to the native wild ginger, (*Asarum caudatum*), *A. hartwegii* spreads more slowly, forming a compact clump. It is easy to grow, asking only for shade, a slightly acid soil and plenty of moisture in summer. Stock of this attractive ground cover may be increased by seed, cuttings or divisions.

The Collector's Corner of the NOHS Fall Plant Sale will have a good selection of small *Asarum hartwegii*, but it's bound to be popular, so get yours early!

Ginny McElwain

## RHODODENDRON KIUSIANUM ALBUM

### Rhododendrons

The Rhododendron Section of this year's Fall Plant Sale is very pleased to feature *Rhododendron kiusianum album* which is undoubtedly one of the finest species in the Azalea series. This dwarf azalea will bud while very young and cover itself with a solid mass of pure white, tiny, rounded flowers during the first few weeks of May each year. As is the habit of all the Obtusum subseries, it's miniature flowers are in perfect proportion to the small, rich green leaves. Its growth habit is wonderful for those of you interested in bonsai or just for something very special in your garden. A native of Japan, it is hardy to 0°F. and will grow to 18 in. in height. Since it is no longer allowed to be collected in the wild, this snow-white form has become rare as a collector's plant and will never fail to attract attention in your garden!

Jean Thomas

## DRYOPTERIS ERYTHROSORA VAR. PROLIFICA

### Ferns

*Dryopteris erythrosora* var. *prolifera* is an interesting variant of the popular Japanese woodland fern species which pleases gardeners with its rosy-red new leaves each spring. Apparently as easy to grow and propagate as the normal form, var. *prolifera* has much reduced total leaf mass because the entire leaf structure, except the veins or ribs, is reduced to a narrow vestige barely sufficient to bear the crowded sori. The plant is thus open and sparse in general appearance. It is somewhat dwarfed in comparison with the parent species. My plant is around 12-13 in. in height. The spring color is similar



# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

September 1, 1977

BARLOW, Ms. Margery 782-6298  
350 N.W. 47th St., Seattle 98107

BEERS, Mrs. Norman  
1712 - 47th S.W., Seattle 98116

BROWN, C.  
P.O. Box 10155, Bainbridge Island 98110

EMERICK, Mrs. Martin  
7303 Renton-Issaquah Rd., Issaquah 98027

ENGELSKJAN, Mrs. Elmer  
2900 N.W. 85th St., Seattle 98117

GOSSLER, Mr. Roger (503) 746-3922  
1200 Weaver Road, Springfield, OR 97477

GREEN, Mrs. Warren  
7207 N. Mercer Way, Mercer Island 98040

HOSMER, Mrs. Richard H. 454-9056  
1930 - 102nd Place S.E., Bellevue 98004

JOHNSON, Dr. Harold R. 322-2803  
2465 Laek Wash. Bldg. E., Seattle 98112

KLINE, Mr. Boyd C. (503) 772-6050  
522 Franquette, Medford, OR 97501

LEWIS, Mrs. J. David 454-5471  
1038 - 89th N.E., Bellevue 98004

LUTEYN, Dr. James L. (212) 220-8645  
The New York Botanical Garden, Bronx 10458

MILLER, Leann M.  
22402 - 64th W., Montlake Terrace 98043

MUSSELWHITE, Mrs. Jean  
812 Jefferson N.E., Renton 98055

(Remove for Year Book)

NAULT, Mr. Dan

1236 N.E. 130th, Seattle 98125

NEHAMMER, Mrs. Frantz

6805 S.E. 32nd, Mercer Island 98040

NEWMAN, Mrs. Leo H.

7440 Latona N.E., Seattle 98115

STEPHENSON, Ms. Betsy

#207, 4230 University Way N.E., Seattle  
98105

SUTTON, Miss Sharon

827-1556

8235 N.E. 119th St., Kirkland 98033

THOMAS, Mrs. Nathan R.

392-5044

4023 Issaquah-Pine Lake Rd., Issaquah  
98027

WATSON, Mr. J. B.

232-8568

9010 N. Mercer Way, Mercer Island 98040

WILLETT, Mrs. Norman J.

776-5314

8710 Madrona Lane, Edmonds 98020

## COMING GARDEN EVENTS

Sept. 19-SYMPOSIUM

20 & 21 Sponsored by: Washington State F.G.C.

7 - 9 P.M. - Monday - Fee - \$1.00

"Soil Deficiencies", Dr. Blair Adams

"Batics", Wendy Jo Kosloski

8:30-5:00 - Tuesday & Wednesday - Fee - \$6.00

"Flower Arranging" - Mrs. William F. Green

"Roses - New Trends and Miniatures" -

Mr. & Mrs. John Frost

"Fruit & Vegetables" - Mrs. Andrew Chayka

Information: Mrs. Lauren Schleppi - 852-4165

United Methodist Church, 2225 9th, Des Moines

Sept. 21-AUTUMN TOUR - BLOEDEL GARDENS

Sponsored by: N.O.H.S.

Field Trip to Bloedel Reserve, Bainbridge Island

Reservations required - Cost - \$4.25

Call Mrs. Hugh Hotson, Chairman - 362-5991



Sept. 28-FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL COURSE NO. 2

& 29      Sponsored by: Washington State F.G.C.  
8 - 3 P.M., Wednesday & Thursday Classes  
8 - Noon      Tests - Fee - \$10.00  
Information & Registration: Mrs. Warren Green  
232-5119

First United Methodist Church  
1934 - 108th N.E., Bellevue

Sept. 30-CHRYSANTHEMUM SHOW OF EARLY ENGLISH TYPES

Oct. 1 & 2 Sponsored by: Seattle Chrysanthemum Study Club  
2 - 9 Friday      Free.  
10 - 9 Saturday      Food Circus North Balcony  
10 - 6 Sunday      Seattle Center

Oct. 5 & 6-FALL BULB SALE

Sponsored by: The Arboretum Foundation  
10 - 4, Wednesday & Thursday  
Washington Park Arboretum, Seattle

Oct. 6 & 7-PLANT SALE - 1st ANNUAL FALL PLANT FESTIVAL

Sponsored by: N.O.H.S.  
4 - 7 Thursday - Preview - \$1.00  
9 - 4 Friday - Admission Free  
Bellevue Square, Bellevue

Oct. 8 & 9-ORCHID SHOW

Sponsored by: Oregon Orchid Society  
5 - 9 Saturday      Lloyd Center Auditorium  
Noon - 6 Sunday      Portland, Oregon

Oct. 12 -STANDARD FLOWER SHOW "Harvest Glow"

& 13      Sponsored by: East Lake Washington Districts  
of WSFGC. Fee - \$1.25; Students - \$.50 each  
2 - 8 Wednesday      1st United Methodist Church  
10 - 6 Thursday      1934 - 108th NE, Bellevue

Oct. 13 -CHRYSANTHEMUMS IN YOUR GARDEN

N.O.H.S. Monthly Noon Program - Free.  
11:30, view displays. Noon - Program. Coffee.  
Pacific Science Center, Eames Theater, Seattle

Oct. 15 -INDOOR PLANT SHOW

& 16      Sponsored by: Oregon Indoor Light Gardening  
1 - 8 Saturday      Western Forestry Center  
Noon - 5 Sunday      Portland, Oregon

Oct. 15 -MUSHROOM SHOW

& 16      Sponsored by: Puget Sound Mycological Society  
12 - 7 Saturday      Pacific Science Center  
12 - 7 Sunday      Eames Theater, Seattle

- Oct. 21 -CHRYSANTHEMUM SHOW  
 22 & 23 Sponsored by: Evergreen Chrysanthemum Assn.  
           5 - 9 Friday           Free  
           10 - 9 Saturday      Flag Plaza Pavilion  
           10 - 6 Sunday        Seattle Center
- Oct. 22 -ORCHID SHOW  
   & 23    Sponsored by: Tacoma Orchid Society  
           Noon - 8 Saturday   Villa Plaza Branch, Tacoma  
           10 - 5 Sunday       Pacific Natl. Bank of Wash.
- Oct. 23 -CHRYSANTHEMUM SHOW  
   & 24    Sponsored by: Seattle Chrysanthemum Society  
           Noon - 9 Sunday      Free - Scottish Rite Temple  
           10 - 4:30 Monday   1155 Broadway E., Seattle
- Nov. 1 -N.O.H.S. ANNUAL MEETING  
           6 PM - Social Hour   University Tower  
           7 PM - Dinner        4507 Brooklyn NE, Seattle  
           8 PM - Business Meeting & Program  
           Reservations: Mrs. Phillip Duryee - 329-2062  
                           1115 - 41st E., Seattle 98112
- Nov. 10 -ROCK GARDENS - PLANTS & PLANTING  
           N.O.H.S. Monthly Noon Program - Free.  
           11:30, view displays. Noon - Program. Coffee.  
           Pacific Science Center - Eames Theater, Seattle
- Nov. 13 -ORCHID SHOW  
   thru 16 Sponsored by: Beaverton Orchid Society  
           5 - 9 Sunday  
           10 - 9 Monday thru Wednesday  
           Washington Square Mall - Portland, Oregon
- Nov. 15 -STANDARD FLOWER SHOW "I REMEMBER CHRISTMAS"  
   & 16    Sponsored by: Chinook District of W.S.F.G.C.  
           1 - 9 Tuesday        Advance fee \$1.25  
           10 - 8 Wednesday   At door       \$1.50  
           Sea Tac Motor Inn, 188th & Pacific Hiway S.
- Nov. 20 -STANDARD FLOWER SHOW  
   & 21    Sponsored by: Washington State F.G.C.  
           10 - 9 Sunday        Advance Fee \$1.25  
           10 - 7 Monday       At door       \$2.00  
           Information: Mrs. Richard Rice - 362-8738  
           Seattle Center Northwest Rooms  
           1st North & Republican St.
- Dec. 4 -STANDARD FLOWER AND CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY SHOW  
   & 5    Sponsored by: Capitol District of W.S.F.G.C.  
           2 - 8 Sunday        Fee \$1.00  
           10 - 7 Monday  
           South Park Community Center  
           4851 S. Tacoma Way, Tacoma



to that of the parent form, but generally the variety is interesting rather than especially beautiful. Perhaps it should be considered a worthwhile collector's item, rather than a garden feature.

The name *prolifera* suggests that bulblets or plantlets should be formed on the rachis or pinnae, but I have seen none on my plant though it is several years old. Propagation is easy from spores, and division of old plants should be possible.

J. R. Baggett

## MAPLES

### Bonsai

The ever changing form and color of maples, and especially their autumn dress, add a bright and joyous note to any bonsai collection. The bonsai department at this fall's sale will have maples which have been trained, some which are semi-trained and a wide range of carefully selected trees to be trained by their new owners. Among these are many forms of *Acer palmatum* including the dainty variegated 'Butterfly', the small ruffle-leaved 'Crispum' and the lovely red-leaved 'Dissectum Atropurpureum'. There will also be our own native mountain rock maple, *A. glabrum douglasii* and vine maple, *A. circinatum*.

Enid Eshom



# Growing & Propagation of Maples

## A MISCELLANY OF NOTES

Milton Gaschk, Tacoma, Washington



### PART IV

#### FAILURE TO SET SEED



As mysterious as the vagaries of fall color is the failure of some maples to set viable seed. In the *Trifoliata* series, limited to five species, all are shy in this respect, and consequently some are quite rare, some uncommon.

*Acer griseum* is perhaps the most popular in this series because of its attractive exfoliating bark and striking fall color. Some years ago I corresponded with a nurseryman in upstate New York who informed me that in 1960 he was buying *A. griseum* seed from England at \$275.00 a pound!

#### MAPLE DISEASES

Though the maple's ills are attributable to a number of pathogenes, the one outstanding offender is *Verticillium albo-atrum*, commonly referred to as verticillium wilt. This condition is characterized by sudden wilting and dying of leaves on individual limbs. Infected trees may die slowly or quickly, depending on the severity of the infection. This is an internal infection, travelling from the root up through the vascular system of the tree, though it can enter the trunk through wounds or be transferred from tree to tree by unsanitary pruning practices.

If the tree is badly infected, there is little chance of saving it. No known fungicide is effective. The one hope is to take quick action when first observed, and this is to apply generous quantities of a high nitrogenous fertilizer, followed by prolonged daily waterings. An example of personal experience with this problem may prove useful to the reader at some future date.

In the spring of 1973, following the disastrous desiccating cold winds of the previous December, my neighbor's five Japanese maples, some 10 to 12 years old, suddenly started wilting at an alarming rate. Within three weeks, one tree completely collapsed. The remaining four trees continued to decline, with more and more wilting limbs. After a quick consultation with the Western Experimental Station pathologists at Puyallup, Washington, and other tree experts, and following their recommendations, about 10 lbs. of 20-20-20 fertilizer was strewn around the driplines of these trees, the sprinklers turned on and kept going almost continuously during daylight hours for the next two weeks. Within about 10 days, all wilting had ceased and much new growth began to form. Within the next month, still with daily heavy waterings, new growth had reached four to six feet. By the end of the summer, the combined effect of the four trees resembled a jungle.



A word of caution when pruning. Always dip pruning shears in a 1 to 10 solution of Clorox or other bleach, at frequent intervals, and especially before beginning on the next tree.

#### LEAF SCORCH

Exposure to the late afternoon summer sun, or to reflected heat from hot western walls often results in scorched leaves. Dry winds can have the same effect. Overhead sprinkling when the foliage is exposed to hot sun will also induce leaf margin scorch.

Especially vulnerable to sun and wind scorch among the Japanese maples are the thread-leaf (*Dissectum*) forms, and some whose foliage is delicately divided into long narrow deeply cut serrated lobes -- 'Linearilobum' and 'Sessilifolium' are two examples.

One account by a commercial grower claims that the generous use of wood ashes (potash) in the fertilizer mixture helps to overcome leaf burn in maples.



#### AN INVITATION FROM THE ARBORETUM FOUNDATION

All who would enjoy sharing their knowledge and love of the plant world with others, young, old or middle aged, are invited to attend an introductory meeting for new guides in all the Arboretum guiding programs. The meeting will be held on October 14, 10 A.M. to 2 P.M., at the Museum of History and Industry, in the Founders Room. There will be a general introduction to what goes on in the operation of the Arboretum, as well as a detailed review of each different Arboretum guiding program: the Native Trail, the Japanese Garden, the General Arboretum, and visitors to schools, children in hospitals and retirement homes.

Further training sessions will be held during the winter and early spring on specific guiding and visiting areas. There will be no charge for these training classes, but each participant will be expected to attend all classes, and guide at least 4 times during the year. New guides will always work with an experienced guide on a tour.

Please call Sheila Taft, 523-5027 or Elizabeth Moses, 822-9346 for questions and reservations, or the Arboretum offices, 543-8800 or 325-4510.

# Save the Berry Garden!

Sallie D. Allen

Rock gardeners all over the world are familiar with the name Mrs. A. C. U. Berry, a knowledgeable and talented Portland, Oregon plantswoman, who was a pioneer in the field of ornamental horticulture in the Northwest. Her interest encompassed not only the exploration of our native flora, but rare and unusual plant material from all over the world, subscribing to early expeditions to the Himalayas and elsewhere. Over the years, her five and one-half acre garden developed into what one would consider a private botanic garden of great interest and beauty. In a lovely woodland setting may be found vast collections of species *Rhododendron*, some still unidentified, *Primula* of all kinds (many of Asiatic origin), a wide range of rare rock garden shrubs and plants, to name but a few.

Mrs. Berry exchanged plants and seed with people at home and abroad and shared her horticultural knowledge through written contributions to many journals. She was extremely interested in our organization and our early plant sales were enriched by treasures from her garden. Those of us who have had the privilege of visiting the Berry garden believe it is one of the finest in the world.

We were deeply saddened to learn of Mrs. Berry's death, and shocked to hear that there was the possibility of the property being sold and subdivided, thus destroying the valuable collections of a lifetime, including many that can only be found in this unique garden. Interested people who could appreciate the unusual qualities of this garden and foresee its potential as a Botanic Garden, formed a committee in an attempt to preserve it for all time. The deadline for raising the necessary \$300,000 is January 1st. The Berry garden must be saved at all cost! For further information write:

Mrs. Pat Wessenger, 321 N.W. Hilltop Drive, Portland, OR 97210



F. Owen Pearce

# Arctostaphylos auriculata

Barry N. Starling, Epping Upland, England

*Arctostaphylos auriculata* is a California species which combines both charm of flower with permanently attractive, silver-grey, felty foliage, to make a worthwhile contribution to our gardens throughout the year. It is hardy, wind tolerant and drought resistant with just one basic requirement - a lime free soil.

After twelve years a plant raised from seed is nearly four feet in height by three feet through, compact and well clothed with stiff, flat, heart-shaped leaves of about one and one half inches in diameter. The young shoots are felty like the leaves, but woody old stems and main branches are smooth and red-brown, but not quite so red and polished as *Manzanita*, with which this shrub is closely akin.

The one fourth inch long, urn-shaped, pink and white flowers borne on hairy pedicels in a panicle shaped like the head of a shepherd's crook, appear while the Spring is still cool and last for about six weeks after which the silver new growth emerges to hide old flower stalks. So far, in my garden, this plant has not produced any fruit but I learn that these are globose, reddish-brown in colour and covered with sticky down.

Although it has flowered freely for several years now, last year's hot, dry, summer here in England induced an abundance of flower this Spring and I could not help feeling that *Arctostaphylos auriculata* should be better known. Three or four well flowered branches were cut off and exhibited at the Royal Horticultural Society's early spring show where the Committee held this fine shrub in sufficient esteem to give it an Award of Merit.

Propagation of *Arctostaphylos* from seed has always been a chancy business involving sulphuric acid bath or ordeal by fire and boiling water or other equally drastic techniques. Thirteen years ago I knew nothing of such treatments and sowed seed of three species in the usual way, in a peat/sand mix. Of these only one seedling of one species germinated and then only after a year in the pot. For a number of years I have tried cuttings, but without success until this year when the cuttings were taken later than usual, in late November. These had all rooted by late April and are now potted separately and growing away well.



# Tidbits

by Ladybug



Notes from a New York member on x *Ledudendron* 'Brilliant': I have raised a few dozen of these plants each year for the past several years. I have not expanded it to commercial quantities because it does not winter over well in a container under white polyethylene house covers, which cause foliage damage. It does, however, have a number of definite interesting characteristics.

It is very precocious - a one year plant with three or four small branches will have the same number of buds. It does not do well in dry situations; does not die out, rather it remains small, hardly showing any growth at all. It grows much faster if moved into slightly larger containers at each transplanting, rather than directly into a large pot. Many of the rhododendrons we grow do better in size in a larger container than they need at the point of transplanting.

*Ledudendron* 'Brilliant' is an excellent forced plant for winter flower shows, etc. The color remains quite nice when forced indoors. I have had one stock plant here which has gone through perhaps eight winters without any damage. It does not suffer from *Rhododendron* 'Elizabeth's' basic flaw in our climate, that of all blooms opening at least part way every fall. In any event, we will continue working with it.

James Cross, Cutchogue, New York



Searching for slugs in early morning and in the evening just before dusk with a handy can of salt water to drop them into, really pays off. I captured 750 in three evenings!

Altha Miller



Trillium seed, even when very fresh, takes two years to germinate. But be patient, it takes three years for *Rhodothamnus chanaecistus*.

Altha Miller



## THE GARDEN CLUB OF AMERICA PLANT EXCHANGE

A display of nearly 1200 plants from all over the country was one of the most interesting and educational features of the 64th annual meeting of the Garden Club of America, held in Seattle early in May. Each of the 182 clubs brought with them six plants, propagated by members, for judging, display, and exchange. The Seattle and Tacoma Garden Clubs, hosts for the three day meeting, each received certificates of Special Recognition for their entries.

The Plant Exchange, a four year old part of the annual meeting plans, has proven to be a great success as well as an invaluable tool for promoting the current GCA Horticultural theme of "Communicate, Educate, Stimulate."

Fransi Lile



Hilliers' Manual of Trees and Shrubs is a unique reference work which is also the catalogue of the well known Hillier & Sons Nursery, Winchester, England. (Price list will be sent on request.) It lists approximately 8,000 woody plants, including many rare and unusual species for which there is little information available. For instance, 20 species of *Gaultheria*, 43 species and varieties of *Potentilla* and 113 *Viburnum* are listed. This excellent addition to any library is available in hard-cover and paperback. Check with your favorite book store.



The summer of 1977 will long be remembered by gardeners in the Pacific Northwest. The long periods without rain and the oppressive high temperatures took their toll of even native trees and shrubs, badly damaged or killed entirely. One fine gardener in our area advises us not to be too hasty to pull out shrubs which appear to be beyond hope. She makes it a rule to keep and tend an apparently dead shrub for two years, theorizing that there may still be life in the root system. Very often she is rewarded for her patience.



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Call Marjorie Baird, 454-3862.

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ures to the Annual NOHS Fall Plant  
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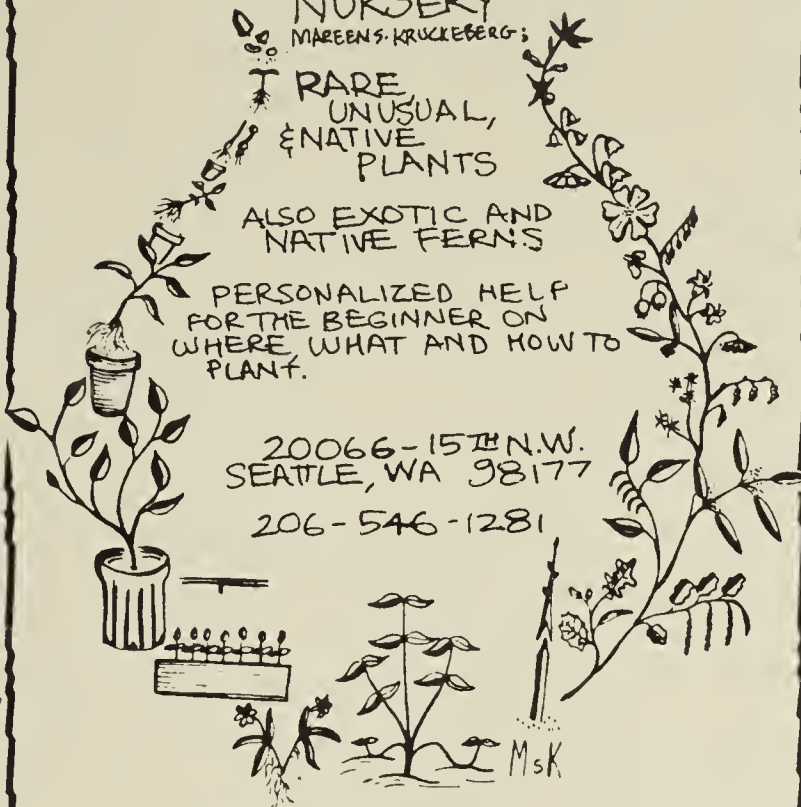
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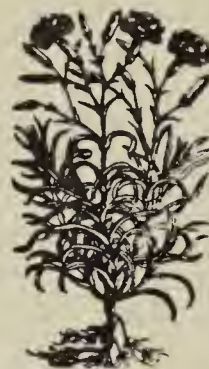
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